



# The Brooklyn Paper

Including The Downtown News, Carroll Gardens-Cobble Hill Paper and

Fort Greene-Clinton Hill Paper

BROOKLYN'S WEEKLY NEWSPAPER



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# Keyspan concerts

Coney stadium to host Bjork, others

By Patrick Gallahue  
The Brooklyn Papers

Coney Island's minor league baseball stadium, Keyspan Park, is getting ready to announce some major league acts this summer.

The only announced performance thus far is Icelandic pop diva Bjork, on Aug. 22, although Josh Young, founder of Brooklyn Boyz Produc-

tions, which is promoting the events, has said in published reports that he hopes to bring at least 30 concerts to Keyspan Park from June through the beginning of September, declined to discuss the plans but said something is coming soon.

"Nothing has been finalized or formalized but we hope within the next two weeks to have something to announce

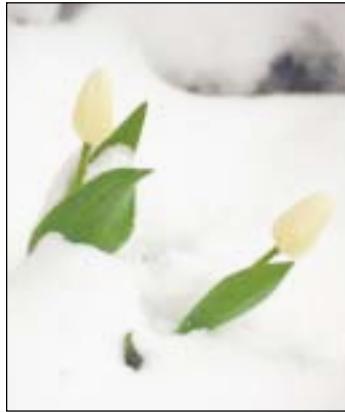
See CONCERTS on page 7

Steve Cohen, general man-

ager of both the stadium and the Brooklyn Cyclones, which play their triple-A season at Keyspan Park from June through the beginning of September, declined to discuss the plans but said something is coming soon.

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See CONCERTS on page 7



The Brooklyn Papers/Tom Callan

## April showers?

Two weeks into spring 2003, you couldn't blame the flowers for being a little confused. Winter wasn't done just yet, dumping about 5 inches of snow on April 7, burying the emerging blooms and turning Clinton Street in Cobble Hill (below) into a white-capped wonderland.



The Brooklyn Papers/Greg Mayo

# Gardens medic survives bullet

By Patrick Gallahue  
The Brooklyn Papers

Thomas Smith Jr., a 21-year-old Navy medic with the 1st Marine Division in Iraq, displayed great heroism and narrowly escaped death this week when he was shot in the chest while trying to save lives in Iraq.

Smith was able to brush off what should have been a fatal blow when the round deflected off his bullet-proof Kevlar vest.

Smith, who grew up in Carroll Gardens and whose parents still live there, was among the 14,000 troops of Smith and Cpl. Luke Holden rescued from the flaming tank as it lay disabled in the road. The Iraqis, however, began firing on the im-

mediate, Americans and Iraqis alike, on the scene and told the Times, "All the stretchers were full of blood. I was shooting guys with morphine. Pretty much all of them had gunshot wounds."

Thomas Smith felt a bullet hit his chest. It ricocheted off, leaving his vest with a large hole.

During a lull in the fighting the next day, Smith made a save and then called his parents on Luquer Street. It was 2 am, when the phone rang, said his mother, Joann Smith.

"He said to me, 'Mom just remember, there's going to be a thing or two, but I want you to be OK when you read it,'" Joann Smith told The Brooklyn Papers. "As long as I can speak to him and he's going to be OK, I'll hang in there."

Her father, Thomas Smith Sr., longtime director of the Saint Mary Star of the Sea sports program, while

counted the details.

Smith began treating sol-

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# OK to new Slope zoning

The Brooklyn Papers

The City Planning Commission this week voted in favor of a proposal to institute height limits in Park Slope without affixing a controversial proposal to include affordable housing in the plan.

The vote was 11-2, with two commissioners, William Grinker and Karen Phillips, the only ones to oppose the plan. Both thought there should be greater consideration for the inclusion of affordable housing.

The application now goes before the City Council's Land Use committee.

"I want to find a way to work this out," said Park Slope Councilman Bill DeBlasio. "But it must include affordable housing and that's the way the council will feel."

See ZONING on page 4

Thomas Smith Jr.

The Brooklyn Papers

A firehouse in Cobble Hill and one in Sunset Park will be closed to help tighten the city's budget gap.

A 5-2 vote approved Mayor Michael Bloomberg's City Council and the Fire Department, this week voted in favor of the mayor's proposal to close five Brooklyn firehouses, one in Manhattan and two in Queens.

Among the firehouses that will be closed are Engine Company 204 in Cobble Hill, at Degraw Street between Court and Smith streets, and Engine Company 278 in Sunset Park, on Seventh Avenue between 50th and 51st streets.

Local elected officials met the ruling

with disdain and a pledge to protest the closings.

"You think you've seen nothin' yet," said Councilman Bill DeBlasio, who rallied a small group to protest outside Engine 204 on Monday.

The commission's 5-2 vote defied multiple protests held outside the firehouses since the cost-cutting move was announced by Bloomberg late last year.

"This decision makes absolutely no sense," said Borough President Marty Markowitz. "The tragic events of 9-11 graphically illustrated our vulnerability as a New York City first line of defense, so we can never do anything that will make our city more vulnerable to attack."

See CLOSED on page 6

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By Patrick Gallahue

The Brooklyn Papers

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See CLOSED on page 6

# Cops eye Monty Bomber 3

By Patrick Gallahue

The Brooklyn Papers

Police would not rule out any of the possible suspects this week in the investigation of a bizarre incident in which pipe bombs were found in a police officer's sport utility vehicle, right outside her Brooklyn Heights home — which was targeted by a pipe bomber two years ago.

At the core of the investigation are the female officer and her husband, and the couple's son, who is behind bars for setting off a bomb in their apartment building in May 2001.

An investigator told The Brooklyn Papers this week that there are a number of theories that are being pursued, although he declined to elaborate.

Police are investigating a series of correspondence for Stephen Alton, who was convicted of perpetrating the 2001 bombing from the Green Haven Correctional Facility upstate, to check who had contact with him since his 20 years-to-life sentence began last May. Police also are investigating reports that the apartment belonged to Steven and Yensy Thomas, both 33, at 68 Montague St., was searched for fragments of PVC tubing, which was used to make the inoperative bomb discovered in their SUV.

Shortly after 10 p.m. on March 31, police found a pipe filled with gasoline and Shredded Wheat, as well as a 357-caliber revolver and a 380-caliber automatic were discovered in the backseat of Police Officer Yensy Thomas' 1992 Isuzu, which was parked in a fire zone in front of her home on Montague Street between

See BOMBING on page 8

# Seal of approval

Marine mammal jumps ashore in Hook

By Patrick Gallahue

The Brooklyn Papers

Gowanus Industrial Park at the end of Columbia Street, was showing the Grain Terminal to a couple who wanted to see the seal swimming around the dock. He got into his truck to buy the seal some squid to eat but when he returned the seal had jumped ashore.

The marine mammal, from the North Atlantic and Arctic oceans, was under a suspended, corrugated steel cover belt attached to the long-dormant silos.

Noticing that the seal appeared hurt, Quadrizzi called the New York Aquarium, which dispatched two specialists.

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## ABORTION



## AUDIOLOGY



## CAREER COACHING



## Cultures and medicine at Methodist

New York Methodist Hospital

What does being African-American, Russian or Muslim have to do with a herniated disk, kidney stone or a respiratory problem?

A new program for resident physicians in the Department of Medicine at New York Methodist Hospital provides a forum for the discussion of the impact of cultural and religious backgrounds on medical care.

Each month, community leaders and hospital staff

members of all stripes are invited to discuss aspects of their own culture that could affect the medical care of patients.

Steven Wallerstein, MD, vice chairman of medicine who spearheaded the program at New York Methodist Hospital, explained that knowledge about a patient's culture

could be invaluable to help that patient.

Some patients who shy away from asking questions because their culture discourages confrontation may need more encouragement to talk openly and ask questions about important issues such as medication doses, Dr. Wallerstein said.

Peter Poulos, director of pastoral care at Methodist explained that this could impact a patient's care.

"Medical professionals need to be aware of calendars. They may have patients who are fasting for Ramadan, Yom Kippur or Advent," he said.

Cultural health care professionals counsel their patients about issues such as diet. A Greek patient, for instance, would be advised to avoid feta cheese if he is given a no salt diet.

The resident physicians at Methodist have met with representatives from several cultural groups. The first speaker was Rabbi Edgar Gluck, an

Orthodox rabbi and a community leader. Next, The Rev. Dr. Barbara L. and African-American minister from Greenwood Baptist Church, spoke about African-American and American Protectors. Farida Khan, MD, medical director of the Diabetes Research and Education Center at Methodist, and a Muslim, discussed cultural and religious variations within the Islamic faith. More speakers from other religious and cultural backgrounds are scheduled.

Following each talk, resident physicians, who come from different backgrounds, discuss issues raised by the speakers and apply them to their own experiences with culture and medicine.

"Helping patients in a diverse society requires a lot more than medical expertise," said Poulos. "If we want to be effective, what we do, we can't use a one-size-fits-all approach."

## New endoscopy suite at Cornell

New York Presbyterian Hospital

Weill Cornell Medical Center at New York Presbyterian Hospital has opened a new state-of-the-art endoscopy suite in order to promote and practice gastrointestinal health.

The unique "high touch/high tech" facility at Weill Cornell Medical Center, is directed by Dr. Mark Pochapin, chief of gastrointestinal endoscopy at Weill Cornell.

"This new facility offers the best in prevention and diagnostics, as well as a humanistic setting," said Dr. Pochapin, who is also professor of clinical medicine at Weill Cornell Medical College. "Patients will receive the latest innovative care in a comfortable and aesthetically pleasing setting.

Advances in technology will include upper endoscopes, endoscopic ultrasound, endoscopic biopsies, stent placement, endoscopic retrograde cholangio-pancreatography (ERCP), structure dilation, argon plasma coagulation, and fluoroscopy.

The suite features state-of-the-art gastrointestinal facil-

iting. Music will be integrated into care with stereo sound built into the facility's private rooms. Patients can choose from the suite's collection of calm music or bring their own. Each room will also have a New York theme, such as Central Park and Times Square.

All endoscopes at Weill Cornell, as well as 10,000 procedures, will be performed in the new suite. Procedures of all kinds will include upper endoscopes, endoscopic ultrasound, endoscopic biopsies, stent placement, endoscopic retrograde cholangio-pancreatography (ERCP), structure dilation, argon plasma coagulation, and fluoroscopy.

The suite features state-of-the-art gastrointestinal facil-

ties and equipment, including digital imaging, computer-generated reports, and flat-panel monitors.

It is anticipated that the late husband of television personality Katie Couric, and the endoscopy suite, characterize by integrated, multidisciplinary, compassionate teaching, and compassionate caregiving, for which he has

received numerous awards and honors. He is also director of the newly established Jay and Susie Geller Center for Gastrointestinal Health, named after the late husband of television personality Katie Couric, and the endoscopy suite, characterize by integrated, multidisciplinary, compassionate teaching, and compassionate caregiving, for which he has

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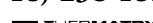
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# Boro rallies to support troops

By Beverly Wang  
for The Brooklyn Papers

Supporters of the American and coalition troops in Iraq, many decked out in yellow ribbons and stars and stripes, rallied under sunny skies Sunday at John Paul Jones Park.

By 10 a.m., about 100 assembly-elected officials, roughly 800 men, women and children came out to the park near Fort Hamilton to raise their voices in praise of American service men and women, and of President George W. Bush.

"We need to send an unmistakable, unambiguous message to the troops," said Rep. Vito Fossella, who emceed the event wearing a brown Air Force bomber jacket.

One of "U.S.-a., U.S.-a." and "America, love it or leave it" erupted as Fossella pumped up the crowd, shouting: "We uphold the U.S. Constitution, not the U.N. Constitution."

"We are the greatest country in the world because of the men and women who are willing to wear [an American military] uniform," said Fossella. "These men and women need our support, and they put themselves in harm's way."

Frigid temperatures on the first Sunday in April did not deter the throng of family members, friends and other military boosters who gathered for an afternoon rally—held—at times impassioned—songs, speeches, chants and prayer.

Fossella spokesman Craig Donner said police at the rally gave an unofficial estimate of between 800 and 1,000 attendees. Of those, just six held anti-war placards.

And while parents, spouses and siblings of military men and women acknowledged that no one can guarantee their safe return or that they are safe, they said that public support for the troops is a gratifying change from earlier anti-war demonstrations including as anti-troop and anti-American.

"Hell yeah, especially since it's a volunteer army," said Bianca Trujillo, when asked if she felt hurt by anti-war statements. Trujillo, 26, has three times the military in her blood: her stepfather is a Persian Gulf vet, her mother is a Persian Gulf vet, her boyfriend is a Persian Gulf vet, and her brother is currently serving in the Persian Gulf.

Dressed in military-issue fatigues and berets, Trujillo said, "Protesters have the right to have an opinion but not to be critical of us. We're just doing what we're told, and we fighting this war gives them the freedom



Rep. Vito Fossella addresses the crowd at Sunday's Rally for America at John Paul Jones Park in Bay Ridge.

## 'Relay for life' at local colleges

By Deborah Kolben  
The Brooklyn Papers

It's not often that New Yorkers get the chance to unlock their sleeping bags and fall asleep beneath the stars.

But at the American Cancer Society Relay for Life, they get to do just that.

Every June for the past 18 years, thousands nationwide have held the night event where teams of people taking turns walking or running around a track, grill hot dogs, play games, honor cancer survivors, support cancer-seekers and raise funds for the organization.

The event has spread to 3,300 communities in the United States and eight other countries.

Bronx Prep joined five years ago with its first site event at Poly Prep County Day School, on Seventh Avenue at 92nd Street in Bay Ridge. The number of participants has grown over the years and last year 450 people attended the most recent Poly Prep alone.

Because of its success, another site was added last year at Wingate Park in East Flatbush. That site attracted 200 people who raised \$36,000.

Ms. Priscilla Garbow, a cancer survivor, said her family thought she was crazy when she told them she was going to spend the night in the park last year. "But it was wonderful." Pride told a small crowd of people who gathered at Long Island University's Downtown Brooklyn campus to learn more about participating and volunteering for Relay for Life.

Because of the event's success, Long Island University was added as the newest Relay for Life site in Brooklyn, making it the third in Brooklyn and 11th citywide. The Wingate Park site should be moving to Brooklyn College this year, organizers said.

Danielle Rouchon, director of special events for the Eastern Division of the American Cancer Society, said one of the most moving aspects of Relay for Life is the American Cancer Center, where candles are lit to represent the "lives affected by cancer, and hope for the future."

The first lap around the track is done by cancer survivors.

An estimated 86,000 people in New York State and 1.3 million nationwide will develop cancer in 2003, according to American Cancer Society statistics.

Brooklyn's Relay for Life events will be held at Poly Prep June 7-8, at Long Island University on DeKalb Avenue in Flatbush Avenue, June 21-22 and at Brooklyn College on Flatbush Avenue at Campus Road, June 28-29.

For more information or to register for the event, contact the American Cancer Society at (800) ACS-2345.

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# Busted for burglaries gone bust

By Patrick Gallahue  
*The Brooklyn Papers*

After a few, possibly as many as three times, to get into homes in Brooklyn Heights, the night got even worse for an inept burglar who was busted for his wasted efforts, police said.

On April 4, a woman, 47, was sleeping in her home on Sixth Street between Suydam Place and Clinton Street when she woke up shortly before 4 a.m. to find a man attempting to open her rear window. She screamed and he ran — but his

## Police Blotters

night was not over yet.

Next door, a man, 33, woke up at 4:20 a.m. to find someone on his window ledge trying to get past the blinds.

When the victim yelled, the suspect took off again.

He was believed to have found a man in the backyard of the homes on State Street and took him into custody.

According to police, there was an incident earlier that night on Clinton Street, be-

tween Atlantic Avenue and Pacific Street, that matches the profitless modus operandi of the suspect, and its possible links are being investigated.

Police said that in that incident, a man, 30, between 5'6" and 5'8" and 180 and 200 pounds, failed to break into a 45-year-old woman's apartment.

### Candy 'n butts

A thief apparently bent on bad health stole \$7,500 worth of candy and cigarettes from a tobacco wholesaler.

At 8:30 a.m., two computers were missing from two different stores closets.

### Mac attack

A man was arrested April 2 trying to climb through the drive-through window of a McDonald's on Tilney Street, between Sixth and Seventh Avenues.

According to police, the suspect threatened an 18-year-old man in the driveway with a knife before he stormed the fast food restaurant at around 11:30 p.m. When officers arrived, the 44-year-old suspect allegedly fled and ran away.

In addition to finding the warrants for the suspect's arrest,

## ZONING...

*Continued from page 1*

DeBlasio added that affordable housing is an issue that affects the constituents of most council members.

City Planning Director Amanda Burden, whose agency put forth the rezoning proposal, has already warned that the addition of affordable housing as a condition of high-rise development on Fourth Avenue could send it back to the drawing board for a whole new land use review.

The application proposes rezoning almost all of the area between Union and 15th Streets, from the Prospect Park West to the short of Warren Street, to R8B, limiting buildings to 10 to 50 feet. Fourth Avenue, from Warren Street to 15th Street, would be rezoned to R8A, which would allow for buildings as high as 120 feet.

David Ridge, a downtown Brooklyn Park Slope Councilman David Yassy and Sunset Park Councilwoman Sara Gonzalez, all support an amendment, spearheaded by the Fifth Avenue Committee, to limit building heights on Fourth Avenue.

DeBlasio added that the future inclusion of affordable housing incentives to developers.

The "inclusionary zoning" program would allow developers to build above the limit should they include affordable units within a building.

The Department of City Planning staunchly opposed the amendment, saying that affordable housing cannot be factored into zoning.

Despite her plea for inclusion of the affordable housing amendment, Williams ended by saying, "And my vote is yes to [the original plan]."

When asked about her ruling, Markowitz chose to ignore the amendment for the sentiments expressed in her speech.

"I'm pleased that Commissioner Williams supported my proposal for a study of inclusionary zoning on Fourth Avenue," Markowitz said through a spokesman. "I hope the City Council, Commissioners and the City Council follow up on this proposal."

The plan will come before the Land Use Committee of the City Council later this month and is anticipated to come to the floor in May, DeBlasio said.

"The nature of this action will benefit people who can afford affluent housing and those housing developers and property owners ... Therefore, I recommend that [City Planning] investigate the feasibility of requiring inclusionary zoning as a means to achieve cultural and economic diversity along Fourth Avenue."

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— Patrick Gallahue

## ALIVE...

*Continued from page 1*

bursting with pride, added, "For the last 19 days we have been on a roller coaster."

"You're happy one minute and then you have tears in your eyes," he said. "I can't describe how proud we are of this kid."

Smith grew up in Carroll Gardens and attended PS 58 on Smith Street, Holy Name.

School on Prospect Park West in Windsor Terrace and the High School of Telecommunications Arts and Technology in Bay Ridge. He joined the Navy right out of high school and traveled all over Europe, including service in Kosovo.

Joann Smith said her son was an avid collector of maps with an eye on far off places

as a child. But he has a huge following close to home.

On Sunday, Smith was mentioned in the Saint Mary Star of the Sea Bulletin. Since the story of his heroism first appeared, neighbors have been dropping off flowers, yellow ribbons and cards, Thomas Sr. said.

"The people in this neighborhood are very supportive of us," Thomas Sr. said. "People who don't even know us say 'Thank you. Thank your son.'"

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## Prez hopeful seeks B'stone bucks



Former Vermont Gov. Howard Dean at a fundraiser on Hicks Street Friday.

By Patrick Gallahue  
The Brooklyn Papers

Could former Vermont Gov. Howard Dean be the choice of Brownstone Brooklyn Democrats to take on President George W. Bush in 2004?

It's a question that will test how the neighborhoods around Brooklyn Heights and Park Slope will pull the lever, but Dean, who held a campaign fundraiser at the home of a Joralemon Street activist Friday night, does have a distant relationship to Brooklyn and politics.

"The real beginning of my political career began in Brooklyn in a funny kind of way," Dean said Friday.

In 1973, during Ed Koch's first failed run for mayor, Dean was campaign finance director for campaign headquarters for him in Flushing.

"Even though I grew up in the Upper East Side that was my first time, I think, I came to Brooklyn — driving up and down Flushing Avenue looking for storefronts," Dean said.

More than 200 people packed the home of Marianna Koval, executive director of the Brooklyn Bridge Park Coalition, to give some face time with the Vermonter, including many local elected officials.

"He'll be one who's definitely against the war," said Rep. Major Owens, of Park Slope, who hasn't made an endorsement but liked what he saw in the New England governor.

Dean is one of nine Democratic presidential hopefuls, and the first to tap resources in Brownstone Brooklyn.

Friday's fundraiser, organized by the Empire State Pride Agenda, raised about \$25,000 for Dean's campaign coffers.

Dean made a speech to guests including Owens, Rep. Nydia Velazquez, State Sen. Martin Connor, State Senate Minority Leader David Paterson, of Manhattan, and congressional candidates Elizabeth Holtzman and Councillor David Yassky. Borough President Marty Markowitz dropped in and pinned a Brooklyn pendant on Dean's lapel.

Encapsulating his message of promoting affirmative action, foreign policy in Iraq and a desire to bring the Democratic Party back again, Dean said, "I'm Howard Dean and I'm here from the Democratic wing of the Democratic Party."

Dean said he believes in a "foreign policy based on nation building."

"How we're going to put [Iraq] back together again in two years and leave, which is what this president wants to do, with no help from the very allies who we've spent the last year humiliating, is beyond me," Dean said.

He went on to slam the president's economic policy. "I'm a conservative on money," Dean said. "That means you don't spend money on tax cuts for people that make a million dollars."

Capbing his speech with a sound-byte cum rallying cry, Dean said, "We want our country back."

So did his message resonate among some of Brownstone Brooklyn's best and brightest as governor is really impressive," Holtzman said. "When no one else fought for comprehensive health insurance, he did ... I'm still looking but I wouldn't count him out."

"I'm just listening," said Velazquez. "I like what I hear."

"I certainly think he'll do well in Brownstone Brooklyn," said Brooklyn Heights Park Slope District Leader Alan Fleischman. "He'll do well with progressive voters, which this area has a lot of."

## DeBlasio rips lack of park safety

By Patrick Gallahue  
The Brooklyn Papers

of the heels of several sexual attacks in parks over the last six months, Park Slope Councilman Bill DeBlasio yesterday questioned the city's policing of its open spaces.

DeBlasio, who is a resident of the 7th Avenue area, introduced a resolution yesterday calling for the city to analyze the efficacy of the agency's Park En-

forcement Police and to evaluate the safety of parks and open spaces.

At a hearing before the council on April 2, DeBlasio questioned Parks Commissioner Adrian Benepe about the issue.

"Before 5 pm, there is a visible Parks Department presence, but help is not there to make it safe," DeBlasio said in a prepared statement after the hearing. "But from twilight on, I think people begin to feel nervous around the park, particularly following the string

of unfortunate incidents late last year."

Among those attacks was the rape of a 19-year-old woman in Prospect Park on Jan. 11.

According to police, the suspect attacked the victim at a fast food restaurant on Empire Boulevard and convinced her to accompany him into the park.

He took her to a location near what is known as the Three Arch Bridge in the park and attacked her.

At around 4:30 am, she managed to escape and ran to police.

Police arrested Rodney Floriv, 43, shortly after his alleged victim escaped and charged him in the attack. Floriv, a homeless man, is currently in jail awaiting trial.

DeBlasio listed two other attacks — one on Dec. 23, 2001, in Corona Park, in Queens, and another in Lincoln Terrace Park, in Crown Heights, Nov. 29, 2001, as incidents that sparked alarm in the city.

Shortly after the Prospect Park attack, the Brooklyn Parks, a non-profit organization that lobbies for safer parks, protested on the steps of City Hall, claiming that New York is woefully short of law enforcement personnel in the city's 28,600 acres of parkland.

Among the group's complaints that are addressed in the council resolution is that there are only 12 Park Enforcement Patrol (PEP) officers in the entire borough of Brooklyn. New Yorkers for Parks is requesting that the parks

dept. a division of the city Parks Department, be incorporated into the police department.

Parks Commissioner Adrian Benepe said "We regularly contact with all police captains that have parks within their precincts."

He added that Park Slope's 78th Precinct patrols the park at night but does not separately track crimes in Prospect Park as part of the citywide CompStat analysis, a statistical summary of the week's crime complaint, arrest and summons activity.

The 78th Precinct now has 11 officers assigned to the park, but it is not a 24-hour patrol.

One police car patrols the park at all times, officials from the precinct said.



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Members of Sacred Heart Youth Program baseball league march down Summit Street near Hicks Street Sunday during parade kicking off their season.

## Play ball!

Members of Sacred Heart Youth Program baseball league march down Summit Street near Hicks Street Sunday during parade kicking off their season.

## CONCERTS...

*Continued from page 1*  
to the public," Cohen said.

He would not comment on which performers were being suggested or if any questions to Young.

Young could not be reached for comment by press time.

Since opening for the 2001 Cyclones season, the 14,000-seat stadium on Surf Avenue at West 17th Street has hosted a number of special events including a multi-faith 9-11 memorial service, a professional boxing match, a Reggae concert and high school talent shows. In addition more than 35 home games each year, Cohen noted that none of those special events was of the scale of a 20-concert series.

"Depending on how our schedule falls out we'll decide on how many larger special events we'll have over the course of a season," he said.

Coney Island is already home to Borough President Marty Markowitz's Seaside Summer Concert Series at Asa-Lowy Park on West Fifth Street and Surf Avenue, which last year brought Frank Sinatra Jr., Alan Parsons, Christopher Cross, former Cream bassist Jack Bruce, Mark Farner of Grand Funk Railroad, the Four Tops and ABBA, featuring some of the original band members.

Markowitz's 2003 concert series will kick-off its 25th season on Aug. 10, and will feature a new show every Thursday until Aug. 21.

Asked about the Keyspan events, Markowitz said, "The more musical offerings the better."

"Brooklyn's incredibly diverse music scene just keeps on getting better and better," the borough president said. "From our borough-wide 24/7 Jazz Brooklyn festival through April, Celebrate Brooklyn, both of which feature concert series during the summer and hundreds of other fantastic music clubs and venues all across our borough, there is no doubt that Brooklyn is the music capital of New York City."

### Cyclones tix on sale

Opening Day and other single game tickets for the Brooklyn Cyclones' 2003 season will go on sale at 9 a.m. on Sunday, April 13. Tickets can be purchased at the Keyspan Park box office or by calling the Shea Stadium box office at (718) 507-21XX (8499).

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By Patrick Gallahue  
The Brooklyn Papers

Consultants hired by the city Economic Development Corporation and the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey this week introduced the community to a study that could dramatically alter the shape of Red Hook's working waterfront.

"Red Hook plays an important role in the industrial character of the city, so we have to look at potential use on the site for industrial activity in the relationship of the maritime use to the industrial activity off the site," said John Alschuler, of Hamilton, Rabkinovitz & Alschuler, the lead consultant on the project. "We have to look at recreational uses, like what you see on Street, larger uses of Pier 6, which obviously abuts Brooklyn Bridge Park."

Hamilton, Rabkinovitz & Alschuler is also the consultant for Brooklyn Bridge Park, a commercial and recreational waterfront development between Pier 5 and Jay Street.

"We're going to look at the full range of uses as this funneling process we're getting large amounts of gets narrowed as we go through the process," Alschuler added.

The study will examine residential, commercial, industrial, cultural and maritime uses for Pier 6-12 in the Clinton Hill and Red Hook, Alschuler said. The study would investigate the economic viability of different ideas, the maximization of assets, market trends, costs and potential to make the plans possible.

In essence, he summarized, the plan will have to meet the needs of the borough, city and region with respect to revenue, jobs, viability and commerce. It will be open to the public, he said, and there will be meetings to discuss updates to the study between May and July.

Last year, the Port Authority's joint review-for-project panel (JP) with the Economic Development Corporation to investigate the "best possible uses" for piers 6-12 on the waterfront between Atlantic Avenue and Pioneer Street.

JP, a general manager for strategic analysis and industry relations for the Port Authority, said the agency had been courted by potential tenants interested in the piers over the last couple of years.

"The Brooklyn waterfront has been supporting families for decades," one man shouted.

Some grew relatively wealthy with the explosive nature of the introduction and sought more specific information although in a couple of cases, answers were given about what could be ruled out for the piers.

"The Port Authority board decided that it's time to take a look at the piers and see if the use of the piers have changed," Zaval said, "as well as taking a look at some of these other opportunities, or these other people that have approached us for use of the piers for other things."

In recent years, the area in the piers has been managed high, with Carnival Cruise Lines negotiating for Pier 7 and Phoenix Distribution, a warehouse, distribution and sales company, interested in Pier 6. The city has filed a conditional application for a zoning variance for 160 Inlay St. for a residential conversion.

Additionally, the Brooklyn Bridge park planners have long sought to incorporate Pier 6 into their plan so that the Avenue of the Americas could become a grand gateway to the development.

While the RFP sought to have the plan complete by July 31, Alschuler said, "No extension is a term I've ever heard mentioned."

The Port Authority owns Piers 7 through 12, while the city owns Pier 6 and leases it to the Port Authority. In 2008, control of the pier will revert to the city.

Piers 6-11 are all leased or subleased, to American Stevedoring, a container shipping company whose lease will expire next year.

For years the neighborhood has been a mix in between supporters of housing and backers of industrial and maritime uses. Recent proposals for an Ikea at the former New York Shipyard at the corner of Columbia and Halleck streets and the proposed 180-500 Vin Brunt St. have sparked fiery debates over the best application of the South Brooklyn waterfront.

The divergent constituencies, however, were relatively quiet. Most, in my estimation, for a strong labor presence. The format of the meeting allowed only questions, no statements, although scattered throughout the audience were numerous employees of American Stevedoring, cheering at the bit for a chance to offer their comments.

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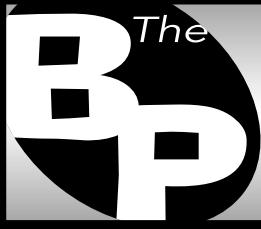
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The Brooklyn Papers' essential guide to the Borough of Kings

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### BROOKLYN EVENTS CALENDAR: GO 2

(718) 834-9350 • April 14, 2003



# Spring feasts

**Party planning pros offer tips on how to celebrate holidays with more love and less mess**

By Lisa J. Curtis

The Brooklyn Papers

**W**hether it be Passover or Easter, the special meals that these important family holidays include can be overwhelming — especially for first-time hosts or hostesses.

Happily there is a wealth of resources that can ease the complications of entertaining so you can focus all of your attention on delighting in your company rather than being tied to the stove — or worse, to the sink.

#### Disposable decor

At A Perfect Setting (140 Atlantic Ave, at Henry Street) owner Jennifer Barron has amassed a carefully chosen collection of high-quality, yet disposable goods that make a gorgeous table while saving you clean-up time.

Forget the plastic, transparent cups of old. Their wine glasses (\$2.75 each, four for \$10), replete with stems, will twinkle in the candlelight as you're sipping your wine and can match them in the wash-up when dinner's over. (And when your tipsy relative drops it on the tile floor you'll just laugh and call them a cab, rather than cursing them for breaking the family crystal.)

Similarly, the lovelier dinner napkins can be discarded, negating the need to wash them. "It's a great time-saver," says Barron.

If you're not ready to let your guests eat a three-course holiday dinner off paper plates, why not use pretty paper dessert plates (\$3.95) with coordinating napkins (\$3.95) for a sweet ending? Maybe this will be the first year you actually sit down and share dessert with your guests.

Want a festive table runner by the buffet without worrying that your hungry charges will drip and stain it? Try table runners (\$8.95) made of banana fiber. With six and a half yards of "material," you can cut it to the center of your table and a few other places where it's needed. And best of all, so there's less cleanup and more chutzpah.

The perfect finishing touch to any table is the centerpiece. For a wonderful springtime bouquet, Storm Mortensen Flowers (194 Court St. at Wyckoff Street) offers fresh, colorful flowers to dazzle your guests (or perhaps to create an attractive diversion from your barest man's course that's smoldering to the side).

Your Storm Mortensen bouquet will be delivered in a substantial vase, so you don't have to worry about the arrangement or the

presentation, just the limits of your imagination when you place the order. These ultra fresh flowers are guaranteed to last for 18 days to a month after your event — serving to add to the joy of your entertaining triumph in the days to come.

For more information about *A Perfect Setting*, call (718) 222-1868. For more information about *Storm Mortensen Flowers*, call (718) 643-3205.

#### Organize, organize

Experts agree that when planning a dinner for a large group, your sanity on the big day rests on your ability to plan. If you really plan ahead, you can hire Gravesend personal chef Roberta Roberti to cook the meal for you in your home, so that when the guests arrive, you can heat the pre-prepared meal in the oven. You still have the joys of entertaining at home, without all the resulting pots and pans.

Roberti's 10-year-old company, *A Whisk in Time*, offers these services year-round, when clients want healthy, fresh meals for their families during the week, or for special occasions.

If you insist on going it alone, Roberti has a few important tips:

"Organize: take stock of what you have and what you need; make a game plan; if you can prepare anything ahead of time, do that; if it can't wait, the refrigerator a week, then make it," she says.

"The first thing I would do is create a menu. Give yourself as much time as possible. Make a list of everything you need and check to make sure you have it ... Don't go grocery shopping until you go shopping, stick to your list," she says.

"Know what you're going to do a week in advance, three days in advance, the day before, the day of, etc. Don't wake up in the morning and say, 'What am I going to do?'"

"Make sure to enjoy your guests. You don't want to run around kitchen, sweating and tiring yourself. This way everything is done."

For a dessert that will make a great impression, Roberti says that in her Italian family, they like to use a favorite to dazzle your guests (or perhaps to create an attractive diversion from your barest man's course that's smoldering to the side).

But she warns, don't anything new. "If there's something you want to make, try it out first," she says. "Recipes can be very deceiving. They can be harder, or more

time consuming or not quite what you're expecting."

For more information about *Roberta's A Whisk in Time* personal chef services, call (718) 791-0799 or e-mail [awhiskintime@personalchef.com](mailto:awhiskintime@personalchef.com).

#### Easy menus

Park Slope cooking instructor Jennifer Herman Clair is well versed in coaching novice cooks and says that this week she will even help out clients through a dry run for Passover. "I'm here for her large Greek family so that she can flawlessly run the kitchen on the day," she says.

This former Martha Stewart food editor says the key to any holiday is preparing at least one or two dishes ahead of time.

"For Passover, I do a lot of freezing," says Clair. "You really have to make them a couple of days ahead of time. You just put it in the fridge in the pot and skim off the fat, then pop it in the oven when guests arrive."

For Easter, Clair says that while maintaining family tradition will make most of your guests happy, it's important to be a bit more timeless. "Meat in the oven is not something you have to deal with," says Clair. "It's not on the stove top, for example. It doesn't have to be constantly stirred. You can leave them totally unattended. They improve with age, especially osso buco or braised pork shoulder."

Ham is also an easy Easter main course says Clair.

"Most are cured and you just have to slather on a sweet, yummy glaze."

Clair agrees with Roberti that dessert is

another course where time can be saved but not at the expense of taste.

"A chocolate torte, like mea, improves with age," says Clair. "It can be made up to two days in advance. It's a dessert that chocolate torte is perfect for Passover."

Even better, Clair recommends taking advantage of the many Brooklyn bakeries — ranging from the mom-and-pop to the hoity-toity — where you can buy your style of dessert, and skip that baking altogether. (Clair is a fan of the new Blue Apple Foods gourmet store at 811 Nostrand Ave. in Brooklyn.)

Clair says that although vegetables do have to be prepared on the day, they can still be pre-cooked that morning to save you time later.

"You can blanch asparagus and string beans and keep them in boiling water for 3 minutes and then put them under cold water so they stay bright green. Wrap them in Saran Wrap, and then just heat them in the pan, with olive oil or butter and lemon juice, right before serving."

And last but not least, says Clair, don't be afraid to delegate. If you have a lot of work to do, consider hiring a caterer. Holidays are about sharing time together.

After all, as Barron says, "they're your family and they'll still love you if the wine glasses are plastic and the tablecloth is paper. With all that's going on in the world, these times are more precious and meaningful than ever."

For more information about *Jennifer Herman Clair's private cooking classes*, call (718) 783-0048 or visit her Web site at [www.homecooking.com](http://www.homecooking.com). For Blue Apron Foods, call (718) 230-3180.



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## ART



# Egg-stra nice

A dozen adults and children gathered on April 6 at the Church of St. Ann and the Holy Trinity at 157 Montague St. in Brooklyn to learn how to create Easter eggs in the *Pravdy* (Ukrainian) tradition (pictured).

Instructor Susan Frazier taught the adults how to use the Ukrainian *kisika*, or stylus, to apply wax to eggs, then dunk them in various dyes, to achieve colorful results.

Kids made sugar eggs, which were nestled into folded brown paper bags filled with grass to resemble a bird's nest.

Parents and children also enjoyed a tour of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, 1000 Washington Ave. For more information about Garden arts and craft programs, call (718) 623-7200. For more information about St. Ann and the Holy Trinity, call (718) 875-6960.

## DINING

# Raising spirits

*Union Temple showcases sophisticated kosher wines*

By Tina Barry

The Brooklyn Papers

I thought of a pre-Passover wine-tasting event conjures up the image of a long table studded with syrupy cups of sweet Concord wine, think again.

On March 30, the Union Temple of Brooklyn, in Prospect Heights, sponsored a wine-tasting event. *Mancinek* was in charge.

The tasting shocked the palates of those accustomed to uncomplicated holiday wines. It was conducted by Alex Speyer, a sales representative for the Royal Wine Corporation, a producer, importer and distributor of kosher wines that was based in Williamsburg for 24 years before moving to Bayonne, N.J., in 2001, and Jack Katz, the proprietor of Paley Wine & Spirits, who sells the Royal wine year-round in his Park Slope shop.

"These are real wines," said Speyer. "They're sophisticated and complex. Some of the wines are slightly sweet, for dessert, but they're not the sugared-down wines people are used to."

In short, presentation, Speyer described the process of making wine kosher.

"Kosher wines go through the same process as any wines from any country," said Speyer.

The only difference is, the entire process is handled by Orthodox Sabbath-observant Jews. (Sabbath-observant Jews do not perform any kind of work from sundown on Friday to sundown on Saturday.)

There are two kinds of kosher wines — non-mevuhah and mevuhah. Mevuhah is a wine in Hebrew. Only Orthodox Jews can handle non-mevuhah wines, in sterilized conditions overseen by a rabbi. For mevuhah wines, grapes, in the juice stage, are quickly brought to a boil then instantly cooled down. The process is called flash pasteurization.

"In ancient times, wine was used by pagans for idol worship and sacrifice," said Speyer. "For Jewish people, wine from that era in idol worship, they boiled it, which [they felt] rendered it unfit for pagan worship. So we boil the wine to retain the tradition. After a wine is flash pasteurized it can be handled by non-Jews and still be considered kosher."

Katz added, "There was a time that boiling the wine ruined it. It took the life out of it. Now the pasteurizing happens so quickly that the taste of the wine is still very alive. It has a special character."

In addition to flash pasteurization, certain conditions must be upheld for wine to be labeled kosher. Following ancient laws, grapes cannot be harvested from vines that are less than 4 years old. Every seventh year, the fields must be left fallow with no other crops. The vines must be pruned by hand. All the cutting tools and storage must be properly sterilized and used only for the making of kosher wines. No artificial additives, coloring or preservatives may be used. A rabbi must supervise the entire wine-making process.

While there were few disappointments, the wines mentioned below were standouts.

A fruity red Zinfandel from Barron Herzog Wineries, in Chappaqua, has a slightly floral flavor and aroma of plum and cedar. This mevuhah wine is a great choice with poultry and vegetables.

A slightly sweet Baratena from Moscato D'Asti, in Italy, would make a perfect aperitif before a Passover Seder, or as a light, fresh conclusion to the meal. The crisp white wine has a bright and citrusy flavor. It has a subtle apricot and melon and a floral-like aroma. Its handsomeness, due to its bottle, makes the wine a great gift. This wine is mevuhah.

Another mevuhah star of the tasting was a Chardonnay from Segal's winery in Israel. The wine was lighter bodied than some and was "not as oaky as American Chardonnays."

See **KOSHER WINES** on page GO 4

**Kosher wineries in California, France and Australia offer a wealth of tasty choices for Passover dinner.**

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# Ms. Directed

Female French directors get the screen all to themselves at BAM

By Michael Wells  
for The Brooklyn Papers

**C**an you tell the gender of a movie director just by watching a film?

Such is unavoidable when considering "Films de Femmes: Female French Directors," an 11-film series showcasing the prominence of women behind the camera in recent Gallic cinema. The series runs April 15-27 at BAM Rose Cinemas.

The results are surprisingly, is maybe. When comparing these to the aggressive gimmickry of Hollywood, it is tempting to attribute their sensitivity to some sort of "woman's touch," particularly since all the females double as their own directors. But if you strip off the credits, you would be hard-pressed to guess the chromosomal makeup of the filmmakers.

The meticulous analysis of emotion and relationships, and the preoccupation with the domestic and the quotidian, are long-standing characteristics of what might be called the "French touch."

The result is that the directors unabashedly take on a subject avoided by most male storytellers: the panic and confusion of repressed homophobia.

The essentials of Anne Fontaine's absorbing "Dry Cleaning" (1997; screening April 15) are nothing more than a string of disconcerting

like a flash of intense embarrassment — and the seed for an enacting that questions who is most dangerous in this scenario.

Bolder in conception but bumpier in execution, "Beau Travail" (1999; April 23), by Claude Denis, is set in a controversial prison colony for foreign Legion outcasts in the North African desert, where the sergeant, jealous over the commanding officer's attention, conceives an irrational hatred for a magnetic model recruit.

Unfortunately, Denis shows little interest in the sociology of this military community, opting instead for frustrating abstraction. In strikingly shot but incomprehensible sequences, the buff-bodied soldiers train beneath the sizzling sun in formal, almost dancelike routines. Drama is replaced by banality, and the commanding officer, Denis Lourau, is an obsessed sergeant. For most critics, this adds up to one of the great films of the '90s. For this writer, it's one of the most overrated.

Gayan panic doesn't really bother the young man played hilariously by Mathieu Kassovitz, French film icon and favorite teen of French youth in Danièle Dubrouc's 1995

"Diary of a Seducer" (1995; April 25). But he believes that pretending, so will help him win over a young woman (Chiara Mastroianni, daughter of French legend Catherine Deneuve) and her husband (Miguel Mastroianni). As he fakes anguish

over his sexual orientation, he is oblivious to a more sincere rival's almost effortless success with the object of his desire. The film is a series of well-constructed situations a little thick, even resorting to gratuitously corpselike fare. But this re-stating of a deadhead theme, romantic self-delusion, is generally dull, charming and even insightful.

Multiply that by 10 for writer-actress Agnès Jaoui's directing debut, "The



Deneuve's daughter, Chiara Mastroianni stars in Danièle Dubrouc's 1995 film "Diary of a Seducer," which will be screened at BAM Rose Cinemas on April 25.

**Taste of Others** (2000; April 26). Co-authored with Jean-Pierre Bacri, this romantic comedy Jean-Pierre Bacri anchors the ensemble cast, as a dutiful businessman who is smitten with a sugar daddy and wins over her art-world circle — prompting surprising life reassessments for both. Comparable intersections occur among the characters orbiting around them, notably a pot-dealing bartender-waitress (played by the radiant Joaquin) who takes up with a strait-laced cop who has come to a standstill in his career and ends personal relationships, but you might have too much fun to notice until it's over.

Tonie Marshall's "Venus Beauty Institute" (1998; April 17) similarly takes what feels like a romantic comedy setup and turns it to deeper use. Veteran actress Nathalie Baye plays an attractive but lonely and emotionally brittle forty-something, annoyed and intrigued by a younger man's sudden infatuation. The majority of the film plays out in the walls of her esthetician's shop. Baye, who is usually observant, ferocious and obsessed with surface appearance and by extension, the masochism of fairytale romantic notions. Marshall dances fearlessly on the edge of such myths. It's a surprising film, at once sweet and bitter.

There's little cynicism or sentimentalism in Sandrine Kiberlain's "Will It Snow for Christmas" (1996; April 22). Little plot either, just the day-to-day lives of an unmarried mother and her seven children on a rural farm, where they toil for the children's father. The film's greatest

pleasure is the tough but joyous devotion binding the heroine to her brood, each of whom is an enchanting, full-bodied character.

Veysset refuses to either gloss over or judge the mother's guilt-ridden inability to let go of the psychological shells her lover/patriarch. Such a short description does an injustice to a movie so tender, fierce and gloriously alive. Even though not all of the "Films de Femmes" were available for review, "Will It Snow" seems unbeatable as the best of the pack.

The strengths of these films, troubling as they are, are that they endow personal fun, that you might have too much fun to notice until it's over.

Veysset's "Will It Snow" (1996; April 18), which constructs that very "masculine" genre, the detective film. The story begins with a private eye, complete with glum voiceover narration, who is investigating a jilted friend's nun's wayward. Interviews with various flashbacks reveal the sodadic self-destructive sexual history of the young woman (the odd and enthralling Sandrine Kiberlain). It's like getting the best background story for one of those frigid femmes fatales that we all know and love.

It also indignantly exposes, to himself and to the audience, the detective's own dysfunction and misogyny. The content sometimes seems in danger of derailing — Masson straddles and occasionally gets stuck on, the fence between naturalism and melodrama. It is powerful stuff, all the same.

There's one telltale sign that all the movies were made by women, it's their vast gallery of rounded, complex female characters. These filmmakers refuse to create stereotypes, or perhaps it never occurs to them in the first place.

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## CINEMA

"Films de Femmes: Female French Directors" will run April 15-27 at BAM Rose Cinemas, 325 Lafayette Ave. in Brooklyn. Adults \$10, and weekdays, \$7 for students with ID. Call (718) 636-4100 or log on to [www.organic.org](http://www.organic.org).

Fontaine's and Jaoui's are the most male-styled of the directors unabashedly take on a subject avoided by most male storytellers: the panic and confusion of repressed homophobia.

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### APPETIZER

Mozzarella Fresca • Organic Salad • Antipasto Misto • Lobster Bisque  
Insalata D'Aragosta (Lobster Adorned with Tropical Fruit & Vinaigrette)

### PASTA

Penne Al Filetto Di Pomodoro  
(Penne with Prosciutto, Onions, Basil & Tomato Sauce)

Tortellacci Di Magro  
Risotto Pescatore

### ENTRÉE

Agnello Pasqualina  
(Baby Lamb, Rosemary & Herbs)

Salmon Tornado

(Rolled Salmon served over Spinach and topped with Lobster Sauce)

Vitello Piccata Con Carcioff  
(Veal Scaloppini With Sauted Baby Artichokes, White Wine)

Pollo Valdostano

(Chicken Stuffed With Feta Cheese, Prosciutto With Mushroom Sauce)

Primo Rib Au Jus

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### SUN, APRIL 13

#### Palm Sunday

#### OUTDOORS AND TOURS

#### WALKING TOUR: New York

#### Transit Museum hosts a

#### "West Side Walk" tour

#### of the New York City transit system.

#### TEA CEREMONY: 2pm

#### at the New York City Center

#### for the 25th anniversary.

#### READING: 7pm

#### at the Alvin Ailey Theater.

#### READING: 8pm

#### at the Alvin Ailey Theater.

#### MEETING: 8pm

#### at the New York City Center

#### for the 25th anniversary.

#### URBAN GLASS TOUR: Brooklyn

#### Brooklyn Museum of

#### Art presents Music in the

#### City: "Music in the City,"

#### 5pm

#### for members and chil-

#### dren 12 and under, \$3 students

#### and \$5 general public.

#### WALKING TOUR: 1pm

#### at the New York City Center

#### for the 25th anniversary.

#### WALKING TOUR: 7pm

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